

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-22 (canceled)

Claim 23 (new): A process for the preparation of an ester of probucol, comprising reacting:
(i) reacting probucol with sodium hydride to generate a probucol phenoxide ion; and
(ii) reacting the probucol phenoxide ion with an acid chloride or an acid anhydride to form the ester of probucol.

Claim 24 (new): The process of claim 23, wherein the acid anhydride is succinic anhydride.

Claim 25 (new): The process of claim 23, wherein approximately two equivalents of sodium hydride to one equivalent of probucol are used to generate the probucol phenoxide ion.

Claim 26 (new): The process of claim 23, wherein approximately three equivalents of the acid chloride or acid anhydride are used to form the ester of probucol.

Claim 27 (new): The process of claim 23, further comprising quenching the ester of probucol with aqueous HCl.

Claim 28 (new): The process of claim 23, wherein the step (i) and (ii) are carried out in a solvent selected from the group consisting of DMF or THF.

Claim 30 (new): The process of claim 23, wherein the acid anhydride is glutaric anhydride.